CHINA BULLETIN

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CORRECTION

In the article on "Mrs. Ester Nystrom's China Visit" in our last Bulletin, it was stated on the uthority of a Stockholm paper that her visit was "on an invitation from the Chinese Church." his we learn from a letter from Mrs. Nystrom is not true. She travelled with a cultural group n a private basis. This however did not prevent her from having many contacts with individual hristians and churches.

OOD FOR CHINA

RNS reported on February 13 that the Council for Christian Social Action of the United hurch of Christ (union of Congregational Christian and the E. and R.) had urged President ennedy to make an immediate offer of wheat to Red China. Billy Graham made the same ecommendation at a news conference preceding a Crusade for Christ rally in Tallahassee, Fla. ut the International Red Cross has already made an offer to send food to China, and the Com- unist Government of China has turned down the offer, denying that there is a famine. (In such question as this, there are bound to be political overtones on both sides. China would lose ace to admit that there is need for help from abroad, and offers from abroad, especially the roposal originating with Hollington Tong in Taiwan and seconded by Chinese and foreign Chris- an leaders there, that there be a world day of prayer for famine victims in mainland China RNS report of February 15), can also be thought of as motivated by the desire to stress the in- bility of the Communist Government to provide for its own people, and thus will undoubtedly e resented in China.)

In the meantime considerable food is entering China by way of food parcels from Hong Kong nd Macau. Reports from Hong Kong indicate that the majority of food parcels sent by post were rned back up until about the first of December, but that since then they have been allowed to nter, and the result is an increasing stream of such parcels, one report says "thousands of food ackages daily"; and the Acting Postmaster General in Hong Kong said on January 10 that the mount was now averaging about 800 bags of mail per day.

The food shortages on the mainland have resulted in an increased flow of refugees to Hong ong and Macau. The number of these has remained at a high level all through the past fall nd winter, and has included at least one Red Army officer.

FRAID? OF WHAT?

This is the title of a book of verse published in Taiwan in 1960 by E. H. Hamilton, a resbyterian missionary formerly in Hsuchow. It is distributed by the Cathay Press, 153 Island

ssued bi-weekly to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. nformation from Chinese church magazines and other Chinese sources is passed on as objec- ively as possible, with a minimum of interpretation. When interpretation is necessary, it is en- losed in parentheses as the comment of the editor. ANNUAL RATES: Domestic, $2.50; Over- eas, Firstclass $4.00, Secondclass $3.00. Airmail $5.00 in 15¢ zone, $7.00 in 25¢ zone.

Road, Hong Kong, at $1.50. The Dedication is in the form of the following poem:

Oh, let me paint a picture, Lord,
That all the world may see
Something of Thy loveliness,
And come to worship Thee.
(And yet, no artist born can trace
The mystic beauty of Thy face.)

Oh, let me make a poem, Lord,
That all men everywhere
May know the great and gentle God
And breathe Thy name in prayer.
(No poet, though, could dimly trace
The wonder of Thy glorious grace.)

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

I have just looked over the 1960 file of this magazine put out in mainland China. I note that Y. T. Wu and Wu Yi-fang continue on its editorial board. There do not seem to have been any articles about the church in this year's issues of the magazine. An article on Tibet has the title "Serf Yesterday - Hero Today", based on the thesis that the old Tibet was an oppressive feudal system that needed to be uprooted. (George N. Patterson has just published a book in London Tibet in Revolt, in which he flatly denies this claim.)

The satellite towns of Shanghai are the subject of another article. The first of these is the old Minhang Street area, and the second one Changmiao, about eleven kilometers north of Shanghai. Each is being built as a complete economic unit, even to having its own department store.

There are pictures of the rice-transplanting machines. They are simple wooden structures, which plant a swath about four feet wide. They can be pulled over the water-covered field by one person, who must apparently arrange the seedlings on a shelf about waist high, and then as the machine is pulled forward they are lowered and planted in the ground. The rate of progress would be therefore rather slow, but the work would be far easier and at least somewhat faster than the older back-breaking setting of the plants by hand.

An ingenious device to help farmers learn to read was shown in a picture of a long line of farmers pushing wheelbarrows, each one with a slogan in Chinese characters and in Romanized on his back, to be studied and memorized by the man pushing the wheelbarrow behind him. Th slogan nearest the camera read, "Increase production".

BOXER AND TAIPING STUDIES

Two articles in the August 30, 1960 Peking People's Daily give the reinterpretation of the Boxer movement which is now current in China. According to this view, the Boxer movement was a true peasant revolution, to be praised as a forerunner of the later Communist revolution. It was a "general confluence of the struggles against foreign religions." Of these religions the first writer says: "Situated in different parts of China and representing the interests of the imperialists, there were nearly forty Catholic and Protestant dioceses with over sixty churches. (I suspect 'dioceses' is a mistranslation here.) About three thousand foreign missionaries were perpetrating abusive and criminal activities in cities and villages in the greater part of China. In the routine of their lives there was not a single moment when the masses of Chinese people could breathe freely without feeling the oppression of imperialism. They could not go on like this indefinitely. They had to rise up and struggle against imperialism." So the writer goes on to characterize it as a patriotic movement, a movement against imperialist aggression.

He refers to American historians such as Morse and Latourette who hold that the movement was but the natural result of the conflict between Chinese and Western civilizations, and calls this an "absurd view", which these writers hold because they do not want to admit that a war can be just or unjust.

The second writer points out how natural it was for the Chinese people to hate their oppressors, and says, "The seed of hatred against the plunderers was sown by the plunderers themselves, and they reaped what they had sown. It was certainly very vicious of them to call themselves 'civilized' while calling those whom they had plundered and killed barbarian." He goes on to say that the righteous aim for which the Boxers fought is now being attained by the Communist movement all over the world.

The Taiping Revolution has also been re-evaluated in the Communist interpretation of history, and an intensive search is being made in the archives of some fifteen counties where the uprising began for light on its beginnings, according to a Hsinhua despatch of February 5. The fact that the uprising began as a secret society makes the study of its early stages very difficult, but some facts about its leaders are being brought out. One item mentioned is that Li Hsiu-cheng, one of the most famous commanders and political leaders of the movement, "was a cook at a school during his youth. He had a marvelous memory and learned much while he was there." (At that early date, 1840 or before, there were very few schools in China with a boarding department. The likelihood is that this was a mission school, though of course the Hsinhua despatch does not say so.) These studies will provide data for a book on Taiping beginnings in Kwangsi Province, which we are told will begin with an analysis of the social classes preceding the uprising.

MISSIONARY NEWS

Recent deaths: Miss Ruth Nathorst, formerly missionary of the Church of Sweden Mission, on January 19 at Uppsala; Miss Agnes Irene Hutchinson, formerly of British Quaker Mission, Chengtu, on November 30, 1960; Miss Laura Wells, formerly nurse in St. Luke's Hospital, Shanghai, since then in Manila, in Santa Barbara, Calif., on February 19.

Before 1948 the Franciscan Fathers had more than 700 members working in China, including 18 bishops and nine prefects apostolic. One of their activities has been the translation of the Bible into Chinese. This work they resumed in Hong Kong, and in 1960 completed the final volume of their eleven-volume translation. They have published a pocket edition of the Gospels, and are preparing a popular edition of the Bible arranged for daily reading. They are also working on an abridgement of the entire Bible. A one-volume edition of the Old Testament with short explanatory notes is in preparation.

In the December 5 Bulletin I reported the deaths of a number of CIM missionaries, information culled from The Millions of the past year, and reported on five names which I could not find in any directory. Now the Rev. C. L. Boynton, former Secretary of the National Christian Council and himself the compiler of many of these directories, writes to me from his retirement home in Claremont, Calif., that R. L. Evans arrived in China in 1896, that Mrs. Charles Thomson arrived in China as Gertrude Graves in 1894 and married Charles Thomson in 1896, and that Mrs. George H. Seville, nee J. H. Greene, arrived in China in 1899 and married Mr.Seville in 1905. He has no record of a J. Russell Howden, and presumably also none of Mrs. W. T. Clark, as his card does not mention her. The card does not give the stations where the three whom he identifies labored.

CHURCH NEWS

Chang Chi-chung (Teddy Chang), son of Presidential Secretary General Chang Chun, was ordained a minister of the Southern Baptist Church in Taiwan recently. His father, Chang Chun, is also a Christian. During the war the latter was Governor of Szechuan Province, and after the war was for a time Foreign Minister, and at one time Premier, of the Nationalist Government in Nanking. The ordination service was conducted by President Chiang's chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Chou Lien-hua. Southern Baptist missionaries Dr. Charles Culpepper and Dr. Carl Hunker also participated.

Leslie Lyall tells in a recent issue of The Millions of an itinerant evangelist in Saigon named Le Kwang Phu. Mr. Phu is a man of deep spiritual life and wide influence in Saigon. In conversation Mr. Lyall learned that he had been converted by the Chinese evangelist John Sung when he was sixteen years old. After that he studied in the Christian and Missionary Alliance school in Nyack, N.Y., and then returned to Vietnam, where he has had an effective itinerant evangelist ministry.

A few monks belonging to the order of the Canons Regular of St. Augustine left Switzerland a few years ago to establish a monastery in Tibet, according to a Religious News Service report. The Herald, a Roman Catholic journal published in Calcutta, has recently reported that these monks are now all in jail, that their churches have been looted and their religious books burnt.

The Roman Catholic Church has established the hierarchy in Indonesia by the appointment of six archbishops to residence in the following cities: Semarang, Djakarta, Pontianiak, Makassar, Medan and Endeh.

GENERAL NEWS

Anna Louise Strong is now living in Peking. Last November she was interviewed for the magazine China Youth, and also herself wrote an article for the English language weekly Peking Review. Both articles gave her reminiscences of interviews with Mao Tse-tung in his cave headquarters at Yenan in the summer and fall of 1946. It was at that time that he first used the expression 'paper tiger' to refer to American imperialism.

A Lhasa report of January 27 informs us that in Ari, the extreme western tip of Tibet, there are now the following: one hospital, six clinics, eight medical service teams. In two counties of the area there are six primary schools with 260 children enrolled, and seven spare time schools with 200 adults. A January 21 report described Shigatse (also in western Tibet, though not as far west as the region of Ari) as a city of 3,800 households, and states that there are now 2,000 primary and secondary school students in this city. There are also ten meteorological stations in different places in Tibet.

During the year 1960 more than four hundred cultural delegations from seventy-nine different nations or regions visited China. One hundred and eighty of these were from countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. China also sent out more than two hundred delegations to forty-eight countries, thirty of which are in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Cultural agreements were made with fifty nations.

The Mail, a daily newspaper published in Madras, India, had an article in its December 12 number complaining of the treatment by the Chinese Government of the Indian students in Peking University. They are said to be discriminated against, and to be spied upon by the interpreters and guides provided for them. When their term of study is ended, they are called in and told to leave the country at once.

A disastrous fire in Kowloon in January left 11,000 people homeless. Ecumenical Press Service has reported that Lutheran relief officials have distributed large quantities of clothing, blankets and cooking utensils to the victims.

Chinese social planners are studying the science of "linear programming." (One of my sons talked to me for an hour recently on "linear programming", taking the line that it was a new mathematical development that I ought to know about.) They find that although its application to industry is something new, it has really been known in China for a long time. The instance given is of two rival states long ago who used to have annual horse races, with entries in A, B, and C categories of horses. One state with poorer horses regularly lost all three races, until a counselor showed the prince how to win two out of three races by matching his A horses against the rival's B, B against C, and C against A.

The Taipei China News on December 8th, under the headline "Birth Control Gets Official Nod," said: "The Chinese Government has finally conceded to the idea of promoting birth control on the island provided the measures are carried out by responsible private bodies."

The development of communes has brought about a need for men trained in farm bookkeeping. Kiangsu Province has a school for that purpose in Nanking, and 1,600 accountants and bookkeepers have graduated from it during the past two years. The school originally offered a three year course for junior middle school graduates, but due to the urgent demands the course was reduced to one year in 1958.

At a recent meeting of philosophers and social scientists in Peking, Feng Yu-lan and Ma Yin-chu were among the speakers. Since both these men have been denounced in the past, and Ma Yin-chu comparatively recently (He was dismissed from his post as President of Peking University on March 26, 1960.), it is apparent that denunciation, and even retaliatory action, does not necessarily mean the end of a man's career.